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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

7 SEPTEMBER 2018

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Carlsbad – CBP Detains 19 After Panga Spotted Off Coast

(U) Border Patrol officers detained 19 Mexican nationals on 5 September who were aboard a boat that washed ashore in Carlsbad. A US Customs and Border Protection agent spotted the panga near Ponto Beach. CBP arrested 14 people who were already on shore when officers made contact. Five people took off in the boat and were arrested on the water.

SOURCE: 5 September 2018, [NBC San Diego](#)

(U) Lakehead – Wildfire Shuts Down Several Miles of Interstate 5, Disrupts Amtrak Service

(U) A wildfire in Northern California that ballooned in size overnight has forced the closure of dozens of miles of a major highway and disrupted Amtrak service into neighboring Oregon. Since igniting Wednesday afternoon in a rural area north of Lakehead in Shasta County, the Delta Fire has rapidly burned more than 22,000 acres of land, including terrain on either side of Interstate 5 near the Oregon border. Authorities closed several miles of I-5, the West Coast's primary interstate, in both directions. Motorists were advised to use an alternate route and avoid the area, according to the United States Forest Service.

SOURCE: 7 September 2018, [Reuters](#)

(U) Pacific Beach – 25 Panga Riders Disembark After Landing Near Crystal Pier

(U) Border Patrol agents are trying to determine how many people ran ashore after a panga landed near Crystal Pier in Pacific Beach. Witnesses reported seeing 25 people get out of the boat and break off into four or five groups. Two of the groups were seen getting into two vehicles that then left the scene. San Diego lifeguards and the US Coast Guard were sent to the area to assist with the investigation, but nobody had been taken into custody. Federal agents investigated two similar incidents last week.

SOURCE: 6 September 2018, [Fox 5 San Diego](#)

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) Texas – US CBP Seize Two Tons of Cocaine Value at \$55 Million

(U) Corpus Christi – US Customs and Border Protection Air and Marine Operations and the US Coast Guard have seized over two tons of cocaine, valued at almost \$55 million. The Air and Marine crew has been patrolling the Eastern Pacific when they detected a Low Profile Vessel. The crew intercepted the vehicle and apprehended four people. These people had been moving 63 bales of cocaine that weighed approximately 4,215 pounds. The official value of the cocaine is \$54,938,310.

SOURCE: 6 September 2018, [News West 9](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia – US Charges North Korean Hacker in Sony, WannaCry Cyber-Attacks

(U) Washington DC – The US government yesterday charged and sanctioned a North Korean man in the 2017 global WannaCry ransomware cyberattack and the 2014 cyber-attack on Sony Corp. The charges,

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part of a strategy by the US government to deter future cyberattacks by naming and shaming the alleged perpetrators, also alleged that the North Korean hacker broke into the central bank of Bangladesh in 2016. Park Jin Hyok worked as part of a team of hackers, also known as the Lazarus Group, to try to breach multiple other US businesses. The US Treasury Department has imposed sanctions against Park and the Chinese-based front company he worked for, Chosun Expo.
SOURCE: 6 September 2018, [Reuters](#)

(U) Maryland – Insys Therapeutics Inc. Charged with Engaging in Deceptive Opioid Scheme

(U) Annapolis – Maryland on Thursday charged Insys Therapeutics Inc. with deceptively marketing a powerful opioid pain killer so that it was prescribed inappropriately beyond its intended use with cancer patients. The state alleged that over 90 percent of the prescriptions for Subsys in Maryland ultimately were for patients who should never have received the product, an under-the-tongue spray that contains fentanyl, an opioid 100 times stronger than morphine.

SOURCE: 6 September 2018, [Reuters](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL**(U) Afghanistan – ISIS Claims Responsibility for Bomb Attack**

(U) Kabul – ISIS claimed responsibility for a twin bomb attack in Kabul on 5 September that killed more than 20 people. ISIS made the claim on 6 September through their Amaq news agency, saying the bombers had targeted "a gathering of apostates" in the Dasht-e-Barchi neighborhood of the Afghan capital. More than 70 others were injured in the bombings, which targeted a wrestling club in the mostly Shi'ite area. A suicide bomber blew himself up inside the club, while about 40 minutes later a car bomb went off nearby, targeting rescue workers and journalists.

SOURCE: 6 September 2018, [RFE/RL](#)

(U) Mexico – Mass Graves with at Least 166 Bodies Discovered

(U) Veracruz – The bodies of at least 166 people have been found in the Mexican state of Veracruz, prosecutors said yesterday, the latest in a string of grim discoveries made in the eastern region in recent years. Veracruz has long been racked by violent crime and is an important trafficking route for drug gangs moving narcotics north towards the US border. Analysis of the remains indicated the bodies had probably been there for at least two years.

SOURCE: 6 September 2018, [Reuters](#)

(U) Syria – US Sees Evidence of Syria Preparing Chemical Weapons in Idlib

(U) Idlib – There is "lots of evidence" that chemical weapons are being prepared by Syrian government forces in Idlib in northwest Syria, the new US adviser for Syria said yesterday, as he warned of the risks of an offensive on the country's last big rebel enclave. The White House has warned that the United States and its allies would respond "swiftly and vigorously" if government forces used chemical weapons in the widely expected offensive.

SOURCE: 6 September 2018, [Reuters](#)

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